OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

O : SAC (157-1067) DATE: 11/20/68

ROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

UBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP), aka.
RM

On 10/16/68 [redacted] advised the writer as follows:

The self-acclaimed black powerite, THEODORE MANUEL, who was so active in the Sanitation Strike during the Spring of 1968 and who has been missing from Memphis for some time is now back in town calling himself "Brother THEODORE." He is driving a new Chevrolet, canary yellow in color, bearing Virginia license 319-173. He has with him a light-skinned Negro woman, about 40 to 42 years of age, and he is trying to promote a Selma City Program entitled "Refugees of Resurrection City, USA, For Human Rights." He is passing out a 2-page mimeograph document in connection with this, one of which was furnished by the informant and Xerox copy is attached to each copy of this memorandum.

1 - 157-1067
1 - 157-556 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
1 - 157-1183 [redacted]
1 - 157-1277
1 - 100-4528
1 - 157-1000
1 - 157-1116
1 - 157-1516
1 - 157-1117
1 - 170-1024
1 -
1 - 157-1019
1 - 157-1258
1 - 157-
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1 - 157-1326
1 - 157-1114
1 - 157-957
1 - 157-DEAD
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Informant also advised that SOLOMON JONES, who formerly worked at Lewis Funeral Home in Memphis, who is a check artist, and who always chauffeured MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., when he was in Memphis, and who was chauffeuring him on the night he was murdered, 4/4/68, is now in the Washington, D. C., area working for a group called "Poor People's Organization."

Informant furnished a letterhead signed Rev. SOLOMON JONES, JR., President, Poor People's Organization. A Xerox of same is attached to each copy of this memorandum. This organization is using an address of 626 Third Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Informant advised that recently EMMETT HOUSE of the Invaders claimed that CHARLES L. CABBAGE, self-acclaimed titular leader of the black power movement in Memphis, Tennessee, including the Black Organizing Project (BOP) and its cell, the Invaders, had run off with $700 of the Invaders' money. EMMETT HOUSE is now looking for a job. Another Invader, JAMES PHILLIPS, last week said that he had been to Atlanta, Georgia, looking for CABBAGE but could not find him.

On 10/15/68 VERDELL BROOKS of the Invaders said he had not been able to find CABBAGE and he, too, was looking for a job.

Source also learned that C. B. SMITH, an organizer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union (AFSCME), is the main contact of the Union with the Invaders and its current titular leader, LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON, who seems to be running it now that JOHN B. SMITH is in the County Jail under a Peace Bond.

The individual whose photograph informant recently furnished, taken on Beale Street, who has been tentatively identified by the Police Department Intelligence Unit as "JIGGS" or "GIGGS," dope pusher, who has furnished the Invaders with marijuana in the past, is a local Negro, claiming to live on North Claybrook and claiming to be a 1963 graduate of Manassas High School.

Recently informant saw JAMES BELL ECHOLS, who suffered from polio and is now crippled and who attended Owen College last year and served temporarily as Secretary for the Invaders. ECHOLS told the informant that he is now a Management Trainee for Shainberg's Department Store. He said that the Invaders are O.K. but they rely too much on dope and drugs and they have gone too far in advocating violence and that the only way to get ahead is to work.

Informant also recently saw CHARLES BALLARD. BALLARD is not working, is not going to school, but he indicated he has been doing a little bit of "leg work" for white private investigator, RENFROE HAYES who works a lot of Attorney RUSSELL X. THOMPSON who may have some connection with Attorney ARTHUR HAYNES of Birmingham, Alabama, in connection with his defense of the indicted killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., namely JAMES EARL RAY.

EMMETT HOUSE bums from all people who will give him money. CHARLES HARRINGTON, another Invaders member, is bumming around town, is not going to school and is making no effort to work.

Informant stated that "WILLIE WINE" strictly lives by his wits, has a sharp mind, although he has little formal education. He stated that he is an excellent pickpocket and is probably the sharpest individual in Memphis with a pen knife and can slit the back pocket of a man's pants and lift his wallet quicker than anyone he has ever seen.

Informant stated that BENNY LANE of the Black Knights has an art shop on North Second Street, and is strictly in it for the money and not due to any philosophy.

Another con artist who claims affiliation with the SCLC, namely, RANDLE CATRON, is putting out handbills showing that he will have an SCLC gospel show at Merry High School, Jackson, Tenn., at 2:30 p.m. and at Mason Temple, 938 Mason Street, Memphis, 8 p.m., both on Sunday, 10/27/68, featuring singing star, Evangelist SHIRLEY CAESAR, and that other groups featured will be the famous Travelling Tornadoes, the Mighty Dixie Wonders, Evangelist T. L. PARKER, JR., the Southland Singers, the Sons of Dixie, and guest MCs JO ANN GOLDEN, FORD NELSON, NELL HUNT, and THEODORE WADE. Tickets can be purchased at the House of Hits Record Shop, 190 South Thomas Boulevard, and from SCLC members. Advance sale is $2.00; at the door, price will be $2.50. This is being sponsored

by BOBBY KING Associates, Phone 526-0617. It was noted for information to contact 189 South Danny Thomas Boulevard, Memphis, and in Jackson, contact LETHA COLE, 239 Middleton Street, Phone 424-2982.

Informant also advised that another handbill was being put out entitled "SCLC, Memphis Mobilization," which stated there would be a mass march in support of hospital strike, Saturday, 10/12/68, at 9:30 a.m. forming at Clayborn Temple.

Informant advised that DON NEELY, erstwhile Invader and associated of CHARLES CABBAGE, is AWOL from the Army and is back in town, claiming that he has been to New York.

RICHARD NEELY, his brother, is running around with a girl named BILLIE who has opened Billie's Den, a night club on Outer Parkway, just west of the Playboy Villa, and that she drives a late model Corvett, fancy Chevrolet sports car, Tennessee License BT 8358. She was a teacher in the Memphis City High School System.

Informant advised that "CHARLIE MAN" real name unknown, a trusty at the County Jail, is a contact man for JOHN B. SMITH with the Invaders and that EMMETT SMITH visits JOHN SMITH nearly every day. Informant recalled that it was "CHARLIE MAN" who while in the Shelby County Penal Farm was regularly writing to EDWINA HARRELL and CHARLES CABBAGE.